

after time in the shape of drunkenness, gambling, swearing, stealing, railing, backbiting, etc., and we strive to drive her from our midst, using every available force. But sometimes she appears in disguise, walking among us dressed in sheep's clothing, with the name of church festival, oyster supper etc; claiming to be for a good purpose, intended to pay off a church debt, pay the preacher, or for the missionary cause. But, if she was deprived of her religious cloak we would at once recognize her as a ravenous wolf, known as Revelry.

Learn wisdom, then. The frequent feast

Avoid; for there, with stealthy tread
Temptation walks, to lure you on,
Till death at last, the banquet spread.

In this article we wish to speak more directly to the young people; though older ones may be benefitted there by. They have been warned of this monster time and again, by older people, who have given them good advice, founded upon years of experience and numerous observations. But some have not heeded the warning, seeming to think it is an old man's advice, who, when he was young sowed his "wild oats" and has now forgotten about it. Perhaps they have obtained some of his early history and find such to be the case. But the advice and thoughts here given are by one, who has just reached the time when most people sow their "wild oats;" but sincerely hopes that there will not be one grain sown by his hand, and prays God that he will give him something better to sow. And, if ever, in all his life he has sown any of the obnoxious seed, (which no doubt he has to some extent, as no one is perfect) he hopes that he shall be able with the love of God to bury it so deep that it will never sprout or come to light; but should it grow he shall endeavor with the tools God shall put into his hands to plow, scrape, rake, scratch, pull out, and expose to the sunlight of God's Word until every spear shall be destroyed. But weeds grow very easily and we should be very careful that our seed is perfectly clean, for "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

This monster appears very frequently before the young in the shape of the

dance and play party. Both being nearly the same. The chief difference is in the music. In the one they have instrumental music, and in the other vocal music, and very idle, foolish, silly songs at that. When Christians investigated the dance and found that the devil was connected with it; many of them located him in the violin; but he was not there, he was in their hearts. Satan being very subtle said, "I will discard the violin for them and have vocal music instead and will still be with them." The play party perhaps receives the attendance of more professed Christians than the dance, but we would say it is only the professed Christians dance.

In order to draw the young people on, Satan here tries to present some scripture, as he did when he tempted Christ. He says "Why David has said, 'Praise God with the timbrel and dance.'" But let us, like Christ, wield at him the sword of the spirit, and point him to Ex. xxxii, 19, where we have an account of dancing that was wrong. Moses had left the people and gone up into the mount, and was there with God. Satan placed the idol before the people; and they said, "Moses has delayed his coming, let us worship the idol." They danced and sang; but their song was not the song of Moses or a psalm of praise to God, but a song to correspond with their worship. All this caused God to be angry with them and he would have, at once destroyed them all, had it not been for the intercession of Moses. Likewise Christ, of whom Moses was a type, has left his people and gone to heaven with God, but intends to come back again; and Satan has set up the idol pleasure, (there are many other idols besides graven images; e.g. Wealth, fame, fashion etc) and the people say, "Christ has delayed his coming let us worship pleasure." They dance and sing, but their song is not the song of Moses, a psalm of David, or hymn of praise to God; but songs to correspond with their worship,—"We'll all go down to Rowers," "Pig in the parlor," "Chinese' Dance" etc. All this is very displeasing to God, and it is very likely that he would at once destroy the people who thus follow after Satan, if it was not for the intercession of Christ.

And, we think, that when Christ comes again to the earth, a great many will share a like fate, as those three thousand spoken of in Gen. xxxii, 28.

Does some one ask, "would you deprive us of all happiness in this life, and must we go about with long and sorrowful faces?" No. I would deprive you of no peace and happiness you might have in Christ; but I would like to see you abstain from all sin and folly. "Christ is all and in all" and we need no idols, no worldly pleasure, no dance, no play-party to amuse us. Let us "Set our affections on things above and not on things on the earth." "Shun the very appearance of evil and cleave to that which is good." Come out from among the evil people, and be separate. Can we not sacrifice a little worldly pleasure for Christ, since he has sacrificed his life for us and offers us eternal happiness if only, in this short life we are obedient to his commandments.

In conclusion allow me to quote:-
How near to good is what is fair!

Which we no sooner see,

But with the lines and outward air

Our senses taken be.

Levering's, Ohio, March 3rd, 1894.

A MINISTER'S PRAYER.

O God, the fountain of all wisdom, enlighten my mind, that I myself may see, and be able to teach others the wonders of thy law; that I may learn from thee what I ought to think and speak concerning thee; and that whatever in thy Holy Word I shall profitably learn, I may indeed fulfill the same. Direct and bless all my labors. Give me a discerning spirit, a sound judgment and an honest and a religious heart, that in all my studies, my first aim may be, to set forth thy glory, by setting forth the salvation of men. And if, by my ministry, thy kingdom shall be enlarged, let me, in all humility, ascribe the success, not unto myself, but unto thy good spirit, which enables us both to will and to do what is acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.—From "Sacra Privata," by Bishop Wilson.

The world pays more attention to what a man does than to what he says.